During these last two months, while President Wilson was making up his mind, the Allies were naturally very anxious to keep in touch with American movements of opinion. Among my papers is a letter from *Allen* sent to *Mr.* British Government by Mr. *Baker's* I. Allen Baker, the idealist Quaker who *interviews* had devoted his life to the cause of Peace *with House* and who had just returned at the end of March, 1917, from a visit to the States. He gives an account of various interviews he had had during this critical time with leading people in the States, in particular with Colonel House, who expressed warm sympathy with the cause of the Allies, and was reassuring as to the certainty of America joining in with all her strength. " We want to be your reservoir for everything that America can supply—food, munitions, money and men—the latter to volunteer and go over as soon as wanted, or can be carried, and they can be trained on your side, if wanted."

" We are ready also to exchange inventions, naval or otherwise, and to co-operate with our United States Navy to rid the seas of submarines."

At an interview on 10th March, the Colonel gave Mr. Baker the following message for Mr. Balfour and me :—

" Tell your people to take no steps to hasten matters directly or indirectly ; it only *House's* hinders instead of helping us. Let *message* us alone and we will go

all the faster.
The only thing I fear is your trying
to push us—the strongest pro-allies
resent this."

To this he added a further message, reiterating
what he had said at previous interviews :
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